

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 ISO-00 SP-02 L-03 INR-07 IO-13

EUR-12 EA-10 OIC-02 /073 W

-----100238 291615Z /44

P R 291519Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0985

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 14072

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, ETRD, EMIN

SUBJECT: UNCTAD COPPER/TUNGSTEN; ITC; ILZSG

REF: (A) GENEVA 7114, (B) MIILER-LENEHAN TELCON

1. COPPER. EMBOFF DISCUSSED WITH HANS BIRKE, INDUSTRY BUREAU, MINISTRY FOR ECONOMICS, HIS REACTIONS TO OUTCOME OF FOURTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS GROUP ON COPPER (IEGC) MEETING. BIRKE SAID HE THOUGHT CONSUMERS COULD BE SATISFIED WITH MEETING ITSELF AS WELL AS CONCLUSIONS REACHED. HE ADDED THAT PRE-MEETING OF U.S., FRG AND JAPAN ON DAY PRIOR TO IEGC MEETING HAD BEEN PARTICULARLY HELPFUL IN COORDINATING CONSUMER POSITION AND SETTING STAGE FOR SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION. WHILE FRG DOUBTS ABOUT FEASIBILITY OF EVENTUAL COPPER AGREEMENT REMAIN, HE THOUGHT STUDIES OF BOTH CONSUMER-PRODUCER FORUM (INFORMATION EXCHANGE) AS WELL AS ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY OF POSSIBLE INTERNATIONAL COPPER AGREEMENT

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WERE GETTING A PROMISING START AND COULD PROVE USEFUL. HE REITERATED EARLIER DOUBTS ABOUT THE NOVEMBER COMPLETION DATE, HOWEVER.

2. TIN. DURING DISCUSSION OF TIN SITUATION, EMBOFF RAISED QUESTION OF FRG POSITION TOWARD A POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL TIN COUNCIL (ITC) BUFFER

STOCK. BIRKE SAID THAT DISCUSSION ON THIS SUBJECT AS WELL AS THE FRG POSITION FOR THE ITC MEETING IN HAMBURG WOULD BEGIN EARLY IN SEPTEMBER. HE SAID IT WAS TOO EARLY TO TELL WHAT THE OUTCOME MIGHT BE, BUT HE ADDED THERE WAS INCREASING UNEASE WITHIN THE FRG BECAUSE GERMANY WAS ONE OF THE FEW HOLD-OUTS ON THE CONSUMER CONTRIBUTION ISSUE. BIRKE PROMISED TO KEEP US INFORMED ON THE TIN CONTRIBUTION QUESTION.

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 ISO-00 SP-02 L-03 INR-07 IO-13

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3. TUNGSTEN. IN CONNECTION WITH TUNGSTEN, EMBOFF RAISED QUESTION INFORMALLY OF ADVISABILITY AND POSSIBILITY OF SCHEDULING A MEETING OF TUNGSTEN CONSUMER COUNTRIES EITHER PRIOR TO OR FOLLOWING ITC MEETING IN HAMBURG. BIRKE SAID HE PERSONALLY THOUGHT THIS WAS AN EXCELLENT IDEA AND SAW NO PROBLEM WITH SUCH A MEETING, SINCE MOST OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE ITC WERE THE SAME AS THOSE HANDLING TUNGSTEN. HE SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS THE MATTER IN-HOUSE AND LET US KNOW. (FYI. WE TALKED BRIEFLY TO AMCONGEN HAMBURG ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING A MEETING THERE. CONOFF SAID HE THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM AND WOULD CHECK IT OUT. END FYI.) BIRKE ALSO INQUIRED WHEN HE MIGHT EXPECT THE TWO U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS FOR HIS TUNGSTEN PAPER,

I.E. A. SUPPLY AND DEMAND FORECAST-5 YEAR PROJECTION AND
B. ANALYSIS OF PAST SUPPLY SITUATION.

4. LEAD AND ZINC. BIRKE RAISED A QUESTION ABOUT THE
PROPOSED SPECIAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL LEAD AND
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ZINC STUDY GROUP (ILZSG) BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 8 IN LONDON. HE SAID HE HAD CALLED KEITH BUCK IN LONDON TO ASK WHAT IT WAS ALL ABOUT, AND BUCK REPLIED THAT THE MEETING WAS BEING CALLED AT THE REQUEST OF THE U.S. BUCK ALSO REPORTEDLY TOLD BIRKE THAT THE SPECIAL MEETING WOULD DEAL WITH THE DEPRESSED CONDITIONS IN THE INDUSTRY AND POSSIBLE COURSES OF ACTION, INCLUDING EXPORT/PRODUCTION QUOTAS. EMBOFF SAID HE PERSONALLY THOUGHT THAT ANY PROPOSAL ON POSSIBLE PRODUCTION QUOTAS WAS UNLIKELY TO HAVE COME FROM THE USG BUT PROMISED TO QUERY DEPARTMENT. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE PROVIDE BACK-GROUND ON ILZSG MEETING FOR DISCUSSION WITH ECONOMICS MINISTRY.

MEEHAN

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